

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

TAKAMOTO et al.

Application No.: Unknown

Art Unit: Unknown

Filed: April 18, 2001

Examiner: Unknown

For: METHOD AND
APPARATUS FOR
LOGIN
AUTHENTICATION

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Prior to the examination of the above-identified patent application, please enter the following amendments and consider the following remarks.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Replace the paragraph beginning at page 3, line 18 with:

Fig. 2 is a flow chart illustrating an operation of the login authentication system when a user attempts to access a web page using a terminal located off the premises where the system exists.

Replace the paragraph beginning at page 3, line 21 with:

Fig. 3 is a flow chart illustrating an operation of the login authentication system when a user attempts to access a web page using a terminal located on the premises where the system exists.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Replace the indicated claims with:

1. (Amended) A login authentication apparatus connectable to a terminal and a web server through an intranet, comprising:

 a storage unit storing a user identifier, an address of a web page within the web server readable by a user having the user identifier, and an address of a web page within the web server changeable by a user having the user identifier; and

 an authentication unit comparing a user identifier received from the terminal with the user identifier stored in said storage unit to determine whether a user having the user identifier received from the terminal is allowed to read the web page and whether the user is allowed to change the web page.

2. (Amended) The login authentication apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said storage unit correlates the user identifier with the web page for storage in a table.

3. (Amended) The login authentication apparatus according to claim 2, further comprising a compiling unit counting number of accesses to each web page and compiling each attribute of the user identifier as access information, wherein said storage unit stores the access information.

4. (Amended) A login authentication method employing a login authentication apparatus connectable to a terminal and a web server through an intranet, comprising:

 storing a user identifier, an address of a web page within the web server readable by a user having the user identifier, and an address of a web page within the web server changeable by a user having the user identifier; and

 comparing a user identifier received from the terminal with the user identifier stored to determine whether a user having the user identifier received from the terminal is allowed to read the web page and whether the user is allowed to change the web page.

5. (Amended) The login authentication method according to claim 4, wherein storing includes correlating the user identifier with the web page for storage in a table.

6. (Amended) The login authentication method according to claim 5, further comprising counting number of accesses to each web page and compiling each attribute of the identifier as access information, wherein storing includes storing the access information.

IN THE ABSTRACT:

Replace the Abstract with:

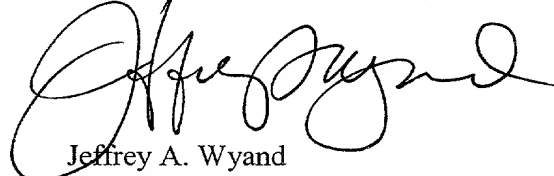
A user transmits, from an on-premises terminal or an off-premises terminal, his/her user ID and password as well as an address of a web page that the user attempts to access. A login authentication apparatus receives them and determines whether the received user ID, password and address of the web page match any of those stored in an authentication table within its master file. If they match, the login authentication apparatus transmits the address of the web page to a proxy server, so that the user is allowed to access the desired web page. Accordingly, the login authentication system ensures security on a web page basis within a web server, and operation by the user is simplified.

REMARKS

The foregoing Amendment corrects translational errors and conforms the claims to United States practice.

Respectfully submitted,

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**SPECIFICATION, CLAIMS AND
ABSTRACT AS PRELIMINARILY AMENDED**

Amendments to the paragraph beginning at page 3, line 18:

Fig. 2 is a flow chart illustrating an operation of the login authentication system when a user attempts to access a web page using a terminal-10 located off the premises where the system exists.

Amendments to the paragraph beginning at page 3, line 21:

Fig. 3 is a flow chart illustrating an operation of the login authentication system when a user attempts to access a web page using a terminal-4 located on the premises where the system exists.

Amendments to existing claims:

1. (Amended) A login authentication apparatus connectable to a terminal and a web server through an intranet, comprising:

a storage unit storing a user identifier, an address of a web page within the web server readable by a user having ~~said~~ the user identifier, and an address of a web page within the web server changeable by a user having ~~said~~ the user identifier; and

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an authentication unit comparing a user identifier received from ~~said the~~ terminal with the user identifier stored in said storage unit to determine whether a user having the user identifier received from ~~said the~~ terminal is allowed to read ~~said the~~ web page and whether the ~~same~~ user is allowed to change ~~said the~~ web page.

2. (Amended) The login authentication apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said storage unit correlates ~~said the~~ user identifier with ~~said readable or changeable the~~ web page ~~to store for storage~~ in a table.

3. (Amended) The login authentication apparatus according to claim 2, further comprising: a compiling unit counting ~~a number of access~~ accesses to each ~~said~~ web page and compiling ~~the counted number for~~ each attribute of ~~said the~~ user identifier as access information, wherein said storage unit stores ~~said the~~ access information.

4. (Amended) A login authentication method employing a login authentication apparatus connectable to a terminal and a web server through an intranet, comprising ~~the steps of:~~

storing a user identifier, an address of a web page within the web server readable by a user having ~~said the~~ user identifier, and an address of a web page within the web server changeable by a user having ~~said the~~ user identifier; and

comparing a user identifier received from ~~said the~~ terminal with the user identifier stored in ~~said storing step~~ to determine whether a user having the user identifier received from ~~said the~~ terminal is allowed to read ~~said the~~ web page and whether the ~~same~~ user is allowed to change ~~said the~~ web page.

5. (Amended) The login authentication method according to claim 4, wherein ~~said storing step~~ includes ~~the step of~~ correlating ~~said the~~ user identifier with ~~said readable or changeable the~~ web page ~~to store for storage~~ in a table.

6. (Amended) The login authentication method according to claim 5, further comprising ~~the step of:~~ counting ~~a number of access~~ accesses to each ~~said~~ web page and

~~compiling the counted number for each attribute of said the identifier as access information, wherein said storing step includes the step of storing said the access information.~~

Amendments to the abstract:

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A user transmits, from an on-premises terminal or an off-premises terminal, his/her user ID and password as well as an address of a web page that the user attempts to access. A login authentication apparatus receives them and determines whether the received user ID, password and address of the web page match any of those stored in an authentication table within its master file. If they match, the login authentication apparatus transmits the address of the web page to a proxy server, so that the user is allowed to access the desired web page. Accordingly, the login authentication system ensures security on a web page basis within a web server, and ~~the operation of~~ by the user is simplified.

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CLAIMS PENDING AFTER PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

1. A login authentication apparatus connectable to a terminal and a web server through an intranet, comprising:
a storage unit storing a user identifier, an address of a web page within the web server readable by a user having the user identifier, and an address of a web page within the web server changeable by a user having the user identifier; and
an authentication unit comparing a user identifier received from the terminal with the user identifier stored in said storage unit to determine whether a user having the user identifier received from the terminal is allowed to read the web page and whether the user is allowed to change the web page.
2. The login authentication apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said storage unit correlates the user identifier with the web page for storage in a table.
3. The login authentication apparatus according to claim 2, further comprising a compiling unit counting number of accesses to each web page and compiling each attribute of the user identifier as access information, wherein said storage unit stores the access information.

4. A login authentication method employing a login authentication apparatus connectable to a terminal and a web server through an intranet, comprising:
storing a user identifier, an address of a web page within the web server readable by a user having the user identifier, and an address of a web page within the web server changeable by a user having the user identifier; and
comparing a user identifier received from the terminal with the user identifier stored to determine whether a user having the user identifier received from the terminal is allowed to read the web page and whether the user is allowed to change the web page.
5. The login authentication method according to claim 4, wherein storing includes correlating the user identifier with the web page for storage in a table.
6. The login authentication method according to claim 5, further comprising counting number of accesses to each web page and compiling each attribute of the identifier as access information, wherein storing includes storing the access information.